

# **Community Safety and Security Needs Assessment and Planning Report**

## **Prepared by:**

Nikki Weinstein, Director, Assessment and Planning  
Don Hannon, Chief Operating Officer  
Scott Biondo, Director, Community Security

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To receive the full report, please contact Nikki Weinstein at 314-442-3764



**Jewish Federation**  
OF ST. LOUIS

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## Executive Summary

The Jewish Federation of St. Louis considers three components in our priority of “safety and security”: 1) security of community based Jewish organizations, 2) Millstone Campus security, and 3) combating anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism is on the rise with 2018 seeing a doubling of anti-Semitic related assaults, according to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). The tragic and deadly attack at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh last year heightened everyone’s concerns about security of physical space and their own personal security. Already, the Jewish Federation of St. Louis has several programs in place related to increasing security including the 2017 hiring of a community security director, the RAVE alert system, provision of security personnel for events, and providing security training for community organizations. A key safety component for any institution is to have an expert conduct a security assessment of their facility. The Community Security Director has conducted a number of these for local organizations. A summary of findings is included in this report. An assessment of Millstone Campus security needs including potential threats and actions to mitigate those threats, has also been conducted. Results of this are included here as well. One interim measure already in place is that Federation is piloting a campus-wide security program. Best practices around reducing anti-Semitism include having strong community relations strategies in place, conducting Holocaust education, promoting pro-Israel education, and having programs that combat bias and anti-Semitism available.

## Planning and Future Considerations

Table 2. Summary of Planning Recommendations

<b>Security of community based organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve physical security applications to continuously maintain best practices</li> <li>• New hardware should be compatible with community-wide systems</li> <li>• Group purchasing should be considered when feasible for cost efficiencies</li> <li>• Jewish Federation leadership should further consider how supporting the cost of armed security using a cost sharing model for day schools and Early Childhood Centers fits with other priorities</li> </ul>
<b>Millstone Campus security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement campus wide patrolling with armed security guards and a vehicle</li> <li>• Develop details for implementing a Security Operations Center (SOC) to provide 24/7 surveillance and monitoring</li> </ul>
<b>Combating anti-Semitism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen use of community relations best practices</li> <li>• Utilize Israel Education activities to explain the relationship between biased attacks against Israel or Jews supporting Israel and anti-Semitism</li> <li>• Continue and expand the reach of local programs related to anti-bias training, confronting anti-Semitism, Holocaust education, and intergroup experiences</li> </ul>